CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of suggesting printer training packages based upon actual usage, comprising:

conveying a print job to a printer said printer including at least one functional characteristic, said print job requiring the utilization of said at least one functional characteristic;

assigning a numerical value to the degree of utilization of said at least one functional characteristic;

maintaining said numerical value in a memory of said printer;

accessing information on a selection of training packages;

comparing said information to said numerical value to select a preferred training package;

suggesting said preferred training package to a user of said printer.

2. The method of claim 1, where said printer includes a plurality of functional characteristics.

3. The method of claim 2, where said print job further comprises requiring the utilization of a number of said plurality of functional characteristics.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

assigning individual numerical values to the degree of utilization of each of said plurality of functional characteristics; and

maintaining said individual numerical values in said memory of said printer.

5. The method of claim 4, where comparing said information to said numerical value to select a preferred training package further comprises analyzing said individual numerical values to select said preferred training package based upon a number of said individual values.

6. The method of claim 4, where comparing said information to said numerical value to select a preferred training package further comprises inputting said individual numerical values into a formula to arrive at an output value and then selecting said preferred training package based upon said output value.

7. The method of claim 1, where suggesting said selected training package further comprises sending an email to said user detailing the availability of said selected training package.

8. The method of claim 1, where accessing information on said selection of training packages further comprises accessing information embedded in a memory on said printer.

9. The method of claim 1, were accessing information on said selection of training packages further comprises downloading said information from a network server attached to the internet.

10. A method of tracking printer use to suggest appropriate training packages, comprising:
    tracking usage of functional characteristics of a printer in a computer memory;
    assigning fuzzy value scores to said usage of each of said functional characteristics;
    accessing information on a selection of training packages for training of said printer, said information containing individual selection scores for each of said training packages;
    comparing said fuzzy value scores to said selection scores to select a preferred training package;
    suggesting said preferred training package to a user of said printer.

11. The method of claim 10, where suggesting said selected training package further comprises sending an email to said user detailing the availability of said selected training package.

17

12. The method of claim 10, where accessing information on said selection of training packages further comprises accessing information embedded in a memory on said printer.

13. The method of claim 10, were accessing information on said selection of training packages further comprises downloading said information from a network server attached to the internet.

14. The method of claim 10, where comparing said fuzzy value scores to said selection scores further comprises analyzing said fuzzy value scores for each of said functional characteristics to select said preferred training package based directly upon a the fuzzy value scores for each of said functional characteristics.

15. The method of claim 10, where comparing said fuzzy value scores to said selection scores further comprises inputting said fuzzy values into a formula to arrive at an output value and then selecting said preferred training package based upon said output value.

16. A system for providing user responsive printer training, comprising:
a printer including a memory;
a usage record stored within said memory, said usage record including a history of a utilization of functional characteristics of said printer;
a selection database stored within said memory, said selection database containing information on a number of training packages for maintaining said printer;
a microprocessor located within said printer, said microprocessor capable of following a set of instructions to select a preferred training package by analyzing said usage record using a fuzzy logic protocol and comparing said analysis to said selection database.

17. The system of claim 16, further comprising a web server incorporated in said printer, said web server in communication with a computer network and configured to download said information on a number of training packages for maintaining said printer into said selection database.

18. The system of claim 17, where said web server is further configured to assemble and convey a message detailing said preferred training package to a user of said printer.

19. The system of claim 18, where said message is an email message.

20. The system of claim 16, wherein said set of instructions includes a fuzzy logic protocol.

21. The system of claim 16, further comprising a workstation in communication with said printer, said workstation capable of conveying a print job to said printer such that said print job is printed by said printer, utilizing one or more of said functional characteristics.

Case: 10008083-1